

NRO REVIEW
COMPLETED

COMOR-D-34/6

1 October 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance

SUBJECT: Processing and Reproduction of
Reconnaissance Film

REFERENCE: COMOR-D-25/46


The attached memorandum has been submitted by the DIA.

It is placed on the agenda of COMOR for consideration at the
meeting of 10 October.




James Q. Reber
Chairman
Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance

Attachment:
Subject paper

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4 DIA 
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Processing and Reproduction
of Reconnaissance Film

1. Reference is made to your memorandum of 1 August 1963 outlining the general guidance for assigning tasks to processing facilities. This has enabled us to plan better in advance for the exploitation and readout cycle of Missions in the Far East. In order that there not be any misunderstanding as to the intelligence definition of strategic versus tactical as used in your memorandum we would define these as follows:

a. We consider missions of a tactical nature to be those which are flown against targets in the geographical area of a theater commander so as to require timely readout of intelligence data and reproduction of film in support of theater planning and strike preparedness.

b. We would consider missions of a strategic nature to be those for which the theater commander does not have a need either for immediate intelligence information or duplicate film and for which he has a longer planning time available. D-25/46 against Central and North China, the Sino-Indian border, and Southwest China would fall into this category and would not require immediate processing or readout in the theater and therefore could be processed in a ZI facility.

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3. It is recognized that it may not be possible to follow in every case the assignment of a mission to a processing facility in accordance with our definitions and recommendations above; however, in order to insure that instructions are passed and planning effected prior to delivery of the mission, designation of a processing facility should be made as soon as possible. This is particularly critical when a field facility is utilized for [] Missions, since notification of objectives for readout must be provided, appropriate security instructions must be stated, instructions for distribution and publication of readout must be provided, and field duping requirements must be stated. In addition, early designation of the field processing facility will allow us time to insure that work schedules are established to preclude any delay. This notification should take place as a minimum 48 hours in advance of alert on the mission and sooner if practicable.

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